

NEWS RELEASE

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
37243-0655

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CONTACT: Milissa Reiersen
Information Officer
(615)741-2257 (O)
(615)308-3705 (C)

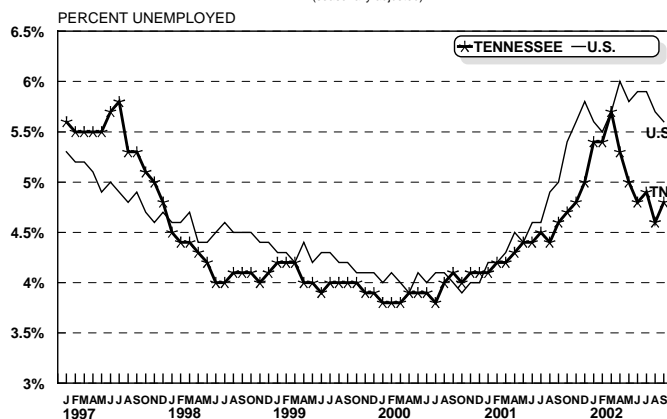
NASHVILLE—Tennessee's unemployment rate for the month of September is 4.8 percent, up from 4.6 percent in August, Commissioner of Labor & Workforce Development Mark Reineke announced today. The state rate remains below the September national rate of 5.6 percent.

"Our state rate remains lower than the national rate, but with a slight increase this month, it shows we are continuing to see slow growth," Reineke said. "The rise in the figure is due to seasonal job losses in the hotel/lodging and amusement/recreation industries as we move from summer to fall and students are back in school. We also saw losses in manufacturing and construction."

August to September figures showed employment increased in local education jobs by 7,600. State education jobs showed seasonal growth with an increase of 2,700. Retail trade also increased by 2,200 jobs. Hotels and other lodging jobs declined by 2,000, due to the end of summer vacation.

From September 2001 to September 2002, services grew by 14,000 with the biggest increases in health and amusement/recreation services. Major decreases took place in manufacturing, down by 10,700. Transportation jobs decreased as well by 5,700, and construction declined by 2,300.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - U.S. & TENNESSEE
JANUARY 1997 - PRESENT
(seasonally adjusted)



LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SUMMARY - TENNESSEE

September 2002 (preliminary) - BM2001

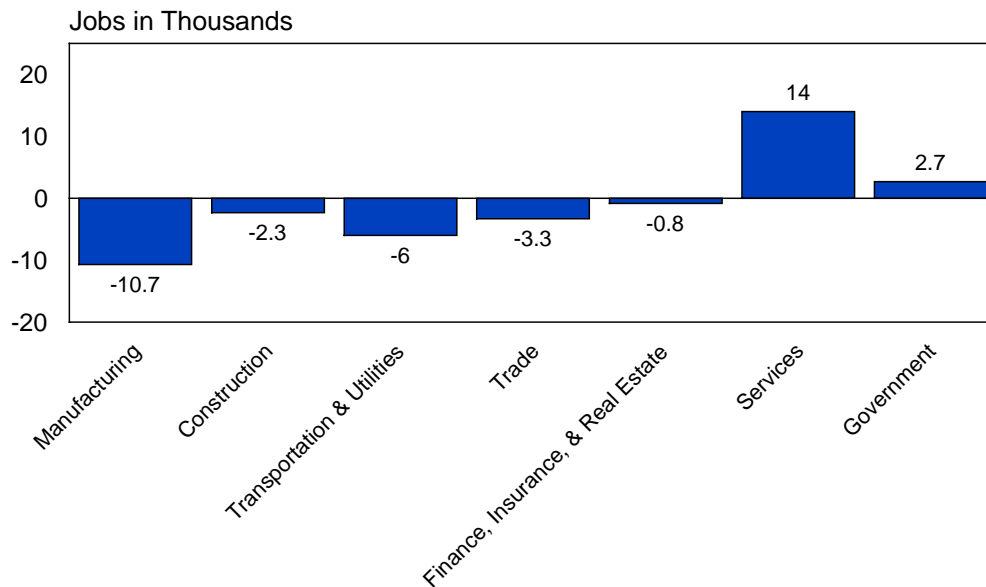
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	<u>Unemployment Rate</u>		Rate Change
				Sep.	Aug.	
UNITED STATES	143,277,000	135,185,000	8,092,000	5.6 %	5.7 %	-0.1 %
TENNESSEE	2,876,200	2,739,300	136,900	4.8	4.6	0.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted

UNITED STATES	142,746,000	135,063,000	7,683,000	5.4 %	5.7 %	-0.3 %
TENNESSEE	2,888,600	2,759,100	129,500	4.5	4.8	-0.3

OVER THE YEAR JOB CHANGES

By Major Industry (September 2001-2002)



County and MSA rates will be released on Thursday, October 24, 2002.

(02-103)

NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures". Sound may be obtained from the Governor's NewsLine at 1-800-342-1483 or Nashville area 741-4877.

NOTE: Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.